(b) whether Government are contemplating to form any auxiliary regiment to support the BSF in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI):

(a) No, Sir. BSF battalions deployed on the border have adequate manpower to operate the gates in the fencing on the International Borders in a regulated manner.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The question does not arise.

Citizens below 35 years

2382. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of citizens below 35 years of age in the country;

(b) the total number of voters of 18 years of age included in the voter's list 2007; and

(c) the total number of citizens whose age is above 60 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) The Government collects the population data of all age groups at each decennial census but does not ascertain their citizenship status. As per Census 2001, the number of persons of age 18 years, those below 35 years and those of 60 years and above are 27,686,902; 711,287,271 and 76,622,321 respectively.

No separate data about the total number of voters of 18 years of age with reference to any year, is maintained by the Election Commission.

Modernization of elite special forces

2383. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are concerned over the slow pace of modernization of the elite special forces;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the slow pace is bound to affect the long term projects of the special forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) While about 57% of the amount allocated for modernisation of para military forces during the period 2002 to 2007